

7th Grade Ancient History Scope and Sequence

Office of the Chief Academic Officer

| Unit | Block Days | Trad. Days | Unit Overview | DC Content Power Standards | DC Content Supporting Standards | DC Historical and Social Studies Skills Standards | Common Core Reading for Literacy in Social Studies Standards | Common Core Writing for Literacy in Social Studies Standards |
|---|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Unit 1 Early Humans | 13 days | 26 days | Students trace the emergence of civilization, considering the ways humans adapted to their environments depending on the natural resources available. Students read complex primary sources, summarizing based on evidence while developing historical vocabulary. Students learn research and pre-writing skills. | 7.2, 7.3.4 Agriculture, Hammurabi's code | 7.1.1-7.1.5, 7.3.1, 7.3.2 | GS.5, GS.9 Migration, Interaction between humans and natural systems | RH.6-8.1, RH.6-8.4, RH.6-8.4, Cite evidence, Summarize, Vocab, Complex texts | WHST.6-8.8a, WHST.6-8.8c, WHST.6-8.5a Use print and digital sources, Determine value of a source, Brainstorming, Outlining |
| Unit 2 Ancient Egypt and Israel | 15 days | 30 days (End of 1 st advisory 11/2) | Students explore the Ancient Egyptian and Hebrew peoples, focusing on how societies and religion operate in reciprocal relationships. Students deepen their analyses of sources, using research and pre-writing skills to write historical narratives with effective introductions, conclusions, and transitions. | 7.3.5, 7.7.2, 7.7.3 Polytheism, Hebrews, Judaism | 7.3.3, 7.3.6-7.3.11, 7.6.1-7.6.5, 7.7.1, 7.7.4-7.7.6 | HCI.12, GS.2 Primary and secondary sources, Maps | RH.6-8.1, RH.6-8.2, RH.6-8.9, RH.6-8.10 Cite evidence, Summarize, Primary and secondary sources, Complex texts | WHST.6-8.2ai, WHST.6-8.2f, WHST.6-8.2ci, Write intro, Write conclusion, Use transitions |
| Unit 3 Civilization and Religion in India | 10 days | 20 days | Students consider how civilizations in India emerged along river valleys because of favorable geographic conditions. They also compare the common characteristics of early Indian societies, including of government, social structure, politics, religion, writing, and art. Students read complex texts and analyze textual structure to determine meaning prior to writing a thesis-based essay. | 7.4.2, 7.4.4, 7.10.1, 7.10.3 Harrapan civilization, Caste system, Hinduism, Buddhism | 7.4.1, 7.4.3, 7.4.5, 7.10.2, 7.10.4, 7.10.5 | HCI.1, HCI.2 Major events, Timelines | RH.6-8.1, RH.6-8.3, RH.6-8.6, RH.6-8.10 Cite evidence, Cause/effect. Point of view, Complex texts | WHST.6-8.1ai, WHST.6-8.1cii, WHST.6-8.1bii WHST.6-8.1bii Write thesis, Write sub- theses, Use evidence in body paragraphs, Evaluate evidence |

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| Unit 4 Ancient Greece, from Tyranny to Democracy | 15 days (End of 1 st Advisory 11/2 End of 3 rd Advisory 3/29) | 30 days (End of 2 nd Advisory 1/25) | Students explain the influence of Ancient Greece on the modern world, specifically the power of people in shaping government. Students also recognize the importance of charismatic leaders and military conquest in cultural diffusion. Students read primary source accounts from political leaders, using evidence to support claims in a thesis-based essay. | 7.8.3, 7.8.9 Political developments, Alexander the Great | 7.8.1, 7.8.2, 7.8.4- 7.8.8, 7.8.10 | HCI.5, HCI.10 Continuity, Opinion and fact | RH.6-8.1, RH.6- 8.5, RH.6-8.8, RH.6-8.10 Cite evidence, Structure, Argument, Complex texts | WHST.6-8.8b, WHST.6-8.8e, WHST.6-8.2bii, WHST.6-8.8f, WHST.6-8.5b Conduct advanced |
| Unit 5 Roman Republic and Empire | 15 days | 30 days (End of 3 rd Advisory 3/29) | Students describe Republican influences on modern civilization. They also explore the Roman Empire, including the cycles of order and disorder and the decline that often follows imperial expansion. Students learn to edit one another's writing and use feedback to make revisions for a final draft. | 7.9.3, 7.9.4, 7.9.6 Roman Republic, Empire, Religion | 7.9.1, 7.9.2, 7.9.5, 7.9.7-7.9.10 | HCI.2, GS.3 Timelines, Empire | RH.6-8.1, RH.6-8. 5, RH.6-8. 8, RH.6- 8.10 Cite evidence, Structure, Argument, Complex texts | searches, Avoid plagiarism, Use quotations, Use citations, Edit writing, Revise writing |
| Unit 6 Chinese Civilization | 12 days (End of 2 nd Advisory 1/25 End of 4 th Advisory 6/20) | 24 days (End of 4 th Advisory 6/20) | Students trace the development of civilization and dynasty in China, focusing on the importance of geography. Students study how societies and religion shape each other, as well as the power of political organization, trade, and technology. Students publish their research papers using an online medium. | 7.5.2, 7.5.4, 7.11.2, 7.11.3 Chinese societies, Shang dynasty, Han Dynasty, Confucianism | 7.5.1, 7.5.3, 7.5.5 7.11.1, 7.11.4, 7.11.5 | HCI.3, HCI.15, GS.3 Central issues, Generalizations, Empire | RH.6-8.1, RH.6-8.7, RH.6-8.10 Cite evidence, Integrate different info types (visuals, text), Complex texts | WHST.6-8.6 Use technology to publish writing, present ideas clearly, efficiently |

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| | 7.2: Describe how the development of agriculture related to village settlement, population growth, and the emergence of civilization (e.g., prehistoric art of the cave of Lascaux, the megalithic ruin of Stonehenge, the Stone City of Great Zimbabwe). 7.3.4: Understand the significance of Hammurabi's Code and the basic principle of justice contained within the code. | • | Social Studies Skills | Reading Standards | Writing Standards |
| | | that supported permanent settlement and early civilizations. 7.3.2: Trace the development of agricultural techniques (e.g., plant cultivation, domestication of animals) that permitted the production of economic surplus and the emergence of cities as centers of culture and power. | | history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. | |

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| Block: 15 days Traditional: 30 days (End of 1st Advisory 11/2) Students explore the Ancient Egyptian and Hebrew peoples, focusing on how societies and religion operate in reciprocal relationships. Students deepen their analyses of sources, using research and pre-writing skills to write historical narratives with effective introductions, conclusions, and transitions. | 7.3.5: Describe the relationship between religion (polytheism) and the social and political order in Mesopotamia and Egypt. 7.7.2: Describe the settlements and movements of Hebrew peoples, including the exodus and their movement to and from Egypt, and the significance of the exodus to the Jewish and other peoples. 7.7.3: Identify the sources of the ethical teachings and central beliefs of Judaism (the Hebrew Bible, the Commentaries): belief in God; emphasis on individual worth; personal responsibility; the rule of law; observance of law; practice of the concepts of righteousness and justice; and importance of study. | 7.3.3: Identify the location of the Kush civilization and its political, commercial, and cultural relations with Egypt. 7.3.6: Understand the significance of Egyptian rulers Amenemhat, Queen Hatshepsut, and Ramses the Great. 7.3.7: Understand the contribution of Egyptian intellectual thought, including the moral teachings of Ptahotep (the Wisdom Texts), contributions in mathematics (Rhind Mathematical Papyrus), and religion (Pyramid texts). 7.3.8: Explain the relationship of pharaohs to peasants as a primary form of labor in Egypt. 7.3.9: Describe the main features of Egyptian art and monumental architecture, particularly sculptures, such as the Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza. 7.3.10: Trace the evolution of language, its written forms (for record keeping, tax collection, and more permanent preservation of ideas), and the invention of papyrus in the early river civilizations. 7.3.11: Describe the role of Egyptian trade in the eastern Mediterranean and Nile Valley. 7.6.1: Describe the Olmec's highly developed agricultural system. 7.6.2: Explain its complex society that is governed by kings and priests with impressive ceremonial centers and artworks. | HCI.12: Students assess the credibility of primary and secondary sources, draw sound conclusions from them, and cite sources appropriately. GS.2: Students use a variety of maps and documents to identify physical and cultural features of neighborhoods, cities, states, and countries. Students interpret historical maps and charts. | RH.6-8.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources. RH.6-8.2: Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions. RH.6-8.9: Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic. RH.6-8.10: By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. | WHST.6-8.2a.i: Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow. WHST.6-8.2f: Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented. WHST.6-8.2c.i: Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion. |

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| Unit 2 Ancient Egypt and Israel (continued) | (see previous page) | 7.6.3: Describe the creation of syllabic and hieroglyphic writing systems and an accurate calendar. 7.6.4: Explain the religious traditions, including the worship of gods, goddesses, and Shamanistic rituals. 7.6.5: Describe characteristics of the Olmec architecture, sculpture, and stone carvings, such as the colossal heads. 7.7.1: Identify the location of ancient Israel. 7.7.4: Describe how the ideas of the Hebrew traditions are reflected in the moral and ethical traditions of Western civilization. 7.7.5: Describe the origins and significance of Judaism as the first monotheistic religion based on the concept of one God who sets down moral laws for humanity. 7.7.6: Explain how Judaism survived and developed despite the continuing dispersion of much of the Jewish population from Jerusalem and the rest of Israel after the destruction of the second Temple in A.D. 70. | (see previous page) | (see previous page) | (see previous page) |

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| Unit 3 Civilization and Religion in India Block: 10 days Traditional: 20 days Students consider how civilizations in India emerged along river valleys because of favorable geographic conditions. They also compare the common characteristics of early Indian societies, including of government, social structure, politics, religion, writing, and art. Students read complex texts and analyze textual structure to determine meaning prior to writing a thesis-based essay. | 7.4.2: Identify the origins of Indus or Harappan civilization in the Indus Valley, and describe how the major river system and the physical setting supported the rise of the civilization. 7.4.4: Describe the development of Sanskrit literature and its relationship to the development of the caste system. 7.10.1: Identify the major beliefs and practices of Brahmanism and how they evolved into early Hinduism. 7.10.3: Describe the story and teachings of the Buddha. | 7.4.1: Locate the early civilization of the Indus Valley. 7.4.3: Describe the Vedic hymns and the beginnings of what would later become Hinduism. 7.4.5: Identify the causes of the decline and collapse of this civilization (the first successive waves of Aryans invade portions of the subcontinent). 7.10.2: Explain the growth of the Mauryan Empire in the context of rivalries among Indian states. 7.10.4: Describe the achievements of the emperor Ashoka and his contribution to the expansion of Buddhism in the Indian subcontinent. 7.10.5: Describe the growth of trade and commerce in the ancient civilization. | HCI.1: Students explain how major events are related to one another in time. HCI.2: Students construct various time lines of key events, people, and periods of the historical era they are studying. | RH.6-8.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources. RH.6-8.3: Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/ social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered). RH.6-8.6: Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts). RH.6-8.10: By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. | WHST.6-8.1ci: Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue. WHST.6-8.1c.ii: Clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence. WHST.6-8.1b.i: Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text. WHST.6-8.1b.ii: Support claim(s) using credible sources. |

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| Unit 5 Roman Civilization Block: 15 days Traditional: 30 days (End of 3 rd Advisory 3/29) Students describe Republican influences on modern civilization. They also explore the Roman Empire, including the cycles of order and disorder and the decline that often follows imperial expansion. Students learn to edit one another's writing and use feedback to make revisions for a final draft. | 7.9.3: Explain the government of the Roman Republic and its significance (e.g., written constitution, separation of powers, rule of law, representative government, the notion of civic duty, and checks and balances) and why it was inadequate to administer Roman affairs by the end of the second century B.C. (B.C.E.). 7.9.4: Describe the influence of Julius Caesar and Augustus in Rome's transition from republic to empire. 7.9.6: Explain the origins of Christianity in the Jewish Messianic prophecies, the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth as described in the New Testament, and the contribution of St. Paul the Apostle to the definition and spread of Christian beliefs (e.g., belief in the Trinity, Resurrection, and Salvation). (R) | 7.9.1: Locate and describe the major river system and the physical setting that supported the rise of this civilization and the expansion of its political power in the Mediterranean region and beyond through the use of currency and trade routes. 7.9.2: Describe the rise of the Roman Republic, including the importance of such mythical and historical figures as Aeneas, Romulus and Remus, Cincinnatus, Julius Caesar, and Cicero. 7.9.5: Trace the migration of Jews around the Mediterranean region and the effects of their conflict with the Romans, including the Romans' restrictions on their right to live in Jerusalem. 7.9.7: Describe the circumstances that led to the spread of Christianity in Europe and other Roman territories. 7.9.8: Describe the legacies of Roman art and architecture, technology and science (e.g., roads, bridges, arenas, baths, aqueducts, central heating, plumbing, and sanitation), literature and poetry, language, and law. 7.9.9: Explain the spread and influence of the Roman alphabet and the Latin language, the use of Latin as the language of education for more than 1,000 years, and the role of Latin and Greek in scientific and academic vocabulary. 7.9.10: Describe how inner forces (including the rise of autonomous military powers, political corruption, unemployment, and economic and political instability) and external forces (shrinking trade, external attacks, and barbarian invasions) led to the disintegration of the Roman Empire. | HCI.2: Students construct various time lines of key events, people, and periods of the historical era they are studying. GS.3: Students create maps that show the growth and decline of empires. | RH.6-8.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources. RH.6-8.5: Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally). RH.6-8.8: Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text. RH.6-8.10: By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. | WHST.6-8.8b: Use search terms effectively. WHST.6-8.8e: Avoid plagiarism. WHST.6-8.1b.ii: Support claim(s) using credible sources. WHST. 6-8.8f: Follow a standard format for citation. WHST.6-8.5c: With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by editing. WHST.6-8.5b: With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by revising. |

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| Unit 6 | 7.5.2: Describe the importance of | 7.5.1: Identify the location of the | HCI.3: Students | RH.6-8.1: Cite | WHST.6-8.6: Use |
| Chinese Civilization | the fertile valleys of the Huang He | early Chinese agrarian societies | explain the central | specific textual | technology, |
| | River to the location of early | that emerged. | issues and problems | evidence to support | including the |
| Block: 12 days | Chinese agricultural societies. | | from the past, | analysis of primary | Internet, to produce |
| (End of 2 nd Advisory 1/25, | | 7.5.3: Identify the uses and | placing people and | and secondary | and publish writing |
| End of 4 th Advisory 6/20) | 7.5.4: Describe the government in | significance of bronze making | events in a matrix of | sources. | and present the |
| Traditional: 24 days | the Shang Dynasty, the | technology. | time and place. | | relationships |
| (End of 4 th Advisory 6/20) | development of social hierarchy | | | RH.6-8.7: Integrate | between |
| | and religious institutions, and | 7.5.5: Describe the development | HCI.15: Students | visual information | information and |
| Students trace the | Zhou political expansion. | of a writing system based on | know the distinction | (e.g., in charts, | ideas clearly and |
| development of | | ideographs of characters that | between sound | graphs, | efficiently. |
| civilization and dynasty in | 7.11.2: Detail the political | symbolize conceptual ideas. | generalizations and | photographs, | |
| China, focusing on the | contributions of the Han Dynasty | | misleading | videos, or maps) | |
| importance of geography. | to the development of the | 7.11.1: Explain China's | oversimplifications | with other | |
| Students study how | imperial bureaucratic state and | reunification under the Qin | and stereotypes, | information in print | |
| societies and religion | internal political stability and its | Dynasty after the disunification of | such as the | and digital texts. | |
| shape each other, as well | influence outside of China. | the warring states period. | attribution of | | |
| as the power of political | | | individual | RH.6-8.10 : By the | |
| organization, trade, and | 7.11.3: Understand the life of | 7.11.4: Explain the adoption of | perspectives on | end of grade 8, read | |
| technology. Students | Confucius; the fundamental | Buddhism and its diffusion | historical events to | and comprehend | |
| publish their research | teachings of Confucianism, | northward to China during the Han | entire demographic | history/social | |
| papers using an online | Daoism, and Legalism; and how | Dynasty. | groups. | studies texts in the | |
| medium. | Confucius sought to solve the | | | grades 6–8 text | |
| | political and cultural problems | 7.11.5: Describe the foreign trade | GS.3: Students | complexity band | |
| | prevalent in the time. | through the Silk Roads and the | create maps that | independently and | |
| | | sea. | show the growth | proficiently. | |
| | | | and decline of | | |
| | | | empires. | | |
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